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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 21 Jan 52

SUBJECT

Reorganization of the People's Army

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1. News about reorganization of the Bulgarian Army has reached the Western agencies [redacted] The man who has been entrusted to carry out this task is General Atanasov, Commander in Chief of the Bulgarian People's Army. His position is similar to that of Marshal Rokossovski in Poland.
2. Atanasov is of Bulgarian origin, a Soviet subject and a full General of the Red Army. He received his military and political training in Moscow [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] He arrived in Sofia only a few weeks ago and immediately took complete control. His headquarters was moved to an unknown place in the countryside. In the first place he purged Bulgarian Army unreliable elements and made all necessary arrangements for the indoctrination of Army political officers. Then he set to work in strengthening the fighting force of the Bulgarian Army. 50X1-HUM
3. [redacted] the total number of the Bulgarian Land Forces increased to approximately 160,000 after the call-up of the new five-year reservists. Another 30,000 men including technical personnel are serving in the Air Force and Navy. The Land Army has been equipped with Soviet tanks of T-34 type, armored cars of Soviet and Czech manufacture, heavy artillery, and a number of jet-aircraft. It is understood, however, that these jets have already surpassed in number the ordinary propelled YAK and old German airplanes which were in use in the Bulgarian Army. Pilots of the new jets are reported to be mainly Soviets as there are not enough Bulgarian pilots available at the moment. 50X1-HUM
4. On 23 Jul 51, a Soviet military delegation arrived in Sofia to inspect the progress made by the satellite army. This delegation was led by the Soviet General Stachanov.

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